

The Bush administration has been asleep at the switch throughout our economic recovery efforts. They have failed to monitor the actions of the companies and banks that have received Federal support through TARP; they have failed to place real caps on the excessive pay of corporate CEOs who take taxpayer money; and they have failed to ensure taxpayer-lent funds are being wisely spent.

Starting today our efforts to put our Nation's economy back on the right track will be taken in a new direction. With consideration of H.R. 384 and the start of the Obama administration, accountability and oversight will now govern TARP. After 8 years it is a new beginning for our country, and it couldn't have come at a better time, on the same day the Bank of America is seeking billions more in Federal assistance.

Reform is what the American people deserve because it is their money on the line.

#### WELCOMING THE IOWA NATIONAL GUARD TO WASHINGTON, DC FOR THE INAUGURATION

(Mr. LOEBSACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, today, I would like to highlight the special role the Iowa National Guard will play in the historic inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama.

Approximately 1,000 Iowa National Guard troops, including 140 from my district, will join 6,000 other National Guardsmen and women from seven States to assist in the inaugural events. This historic trip to Washington, DC marks the first time in its 170-year history that the Iowa National Guard has participated in a presidential inauguration.

I have had the honor of meeting many of Iowa's citizen shouldered both at home when they have responded to natural disasters such as last summer's floods and abroad in Iraq and Afghanistan. They are some of Iowa's finest citizens and some of the finest troops in our military services.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to my fellow Iowans as they arrive in Washington. I am deeply proud of the role they will play in this historic event.

□ 1430

#### FEDERAL TAX CREDITS FOR STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, since the broad outlines of economic recovery legislation were first announced, Representative TOM PERRIELLO and I have been working with our colleagues to see that that legislation was strengthened to include

additional assistance for students and their families, students who deserve all the education that they are willing to work for.

Today we are pleased to announce success. The legislation that will be filed to improve and strengthen our economy at this time of economic downturn will include about \$12.5 billion in new federal assistance over the next 2 years in the form of federal tax credits. These tax credits will be expanded to include textbooks and course materials. They will help now so that every family that is spending a dollar on higher education this year will know they will get that dollar back, up to \$2,500 next year when they pay their tax return.

For the first time in history, this will be a refundable credit, as we proposed it, so that families making less than \$40,000 a year, who did not qualify for the full credit in the past, will now be entitled to get up to \$1,000 of their expenses. At a time of economic downturn, this is the time to support our students and their families. Help them and help rebuild our economy.

#### NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY FOR 2009—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-7)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committees on Armed Services, Education and Labor, Energy and Commerce, Foreign Affairs, Homeland Security, Judiciary, Natural Resources, Oversight and Government Reform, Small Business, Transportation and Infrastructure, Veterans' Affairs and Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

##### *To the Congress of the United States:*

I am pleased to transmit the 2009 National Drug Control Strategy, consistent with the provisions of section 201 of the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006.

My Administration released its first National Drug Control Strategy in 2002 with the commitment to turn the tide against a problem that truly threatens everything that is good about our country. As we prepare to pass this noble charge to a new team of leaders, we can look back with satisfaction on what we have achieved together as a Nation. From community coalitions to our international partnerships, we pursued a balanced strategy that emphasized stopping initiation, reducing drug abuse and addiction, and disrupting drug markets.

The results of our efforts are clear. Together we have helped reduce teenage drug use by 25 percent since 2001. This means 900,000 fewer American teens are using drugs. The Access to Recovery program alone has extended treatment services to more than 260,000 Americans. Through law enforcement

cooperation and international partnerships, the United States has caused serious disruptions in the availability of drugs such as cocaine and methamphetamine, reducing the threat such drugs pose to the American people, while also denying profits to drug traffickers and terrorists.

Our work is by no means complete—we must build on these efforts both to further reduce drug use and to rise to new challenges. I thank the Congress for its support and ask that it continue to support this critical endeavor.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 15, 2009.

#### CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN TERRORISTS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 111-8)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

##### *To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the emergency declared with respect to foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process is to continue in effect beyond January 23, 2009.

The crisis with respect to the grave acts of violence committed by foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that led to the declaration of a national emergency on January 23, 1995, as expanded on August 20, 1998, has not been resolved. Terrorist groups continue to engage in activities that have the purpose or effect of threatening the Middle East peace process and that are hostile to United States interests in the region. Such actions constitute an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process and to maintain in force the economic sanctions against them to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, January 15, 2009.